

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Viola Behselich was born on January 23, 1914, the youngest child of Theodore and Anna (Theis) Behselich, and grew up in Ipswich, South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Viola received her teaching certificate from what is now known as Northern State University in Aberdeen and later continued her higher education; and,

Whereas, In 1939, Viola moved to Rosholt, and on December 27, 1945, she married Victor Wieser; and,

Whereas, Viola taught school for 45 years, retiring in 1981, and although she had no children of her own, she is credited for teaching numerous children in Rosholt reading, writing, and arithmetic, as well as basic principles of right from wrong, high moral standards, and encouragement toward a good education; and,

Whereas, Viola has always been a willing volunteer at her church, the schools, and in the community to make certain the needs of all humankind are being met. She is a regular visitor of the Rosholt Care Center residents, plants flowers in public areas for all to enjoy, makes quilts and rosaries for mission projects, conducts tours of the local museum, is always ready to listen to the story of a great-great niece or nephew or former student, and is famous for her poppy seed bread and Swedish rice pudding; and,

Whereas, Viola lives at Rosholt and will observe her 90th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as her friends and relatives gather on Sunday, January 25, 2004, for an open house at the Rosholt Community Center, to honor her and celebrate her life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a woman who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim January 23, 2004, as

VIOLA WIESER DAY

in South Dakota, and I join all her many friends and relatives in wishing her a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirtieth Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.



M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:



Chris Nelson, Secretary of State

